&UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/788
S/1997/88
29 January 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33 and 35
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 24 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement issued on 22 January 1997 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia regarding the signing, on 15 January 1997, of the Agreement between the Government of Israel and the Palestinian authorities on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the city of Hebron.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Denko MALESKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Macedonia
to the United Nations

97-02681 (E) 300197

ANNEX

Statement issued on 22 January 1997 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia expresses its full support to the recently concluded Israeli-Palestinian Agreement on Hebron, which lends concrete support to the implementation of the agreements of the Middle East peace process.

The Agreement, concluded on 15 January 1997 at Jerusalem and signed three days later by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, is an important contribution towards the definitive settlement of the Middle East problem.

This historic moment is one more proof of the positive trend of the development of relationships, and an affirmation of the foreign policy orientations, of both parties, and represents a step forward towards the achievement of lasting peace and stability, coinciding with the major long-term efforts of the Republic of Macedonia in the region of the Balkans, in Europe as a whole and throughout the world.